



Preparing for a storm: Part 2 Hurricanes

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

According to the NOAA, the lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are the main reasons these weather emergencies become disasters.

Understanding vulnerabilities and preparing homes, businesses, and families for the worst can go a long way toward making the best of a bad situation.

The time to prepare, however, is not when a hurricane is on the horizon; when all our neighbors are grabbing the same supplies off the same shelves, but now, during the calm before the storm we hope is not coming.

This is the second and final part of the Emergency Preparedness reminder as we enter the heart of the 2013 Hurricane Season.

For local Emergency Preparedness information check:

Harford County Department of Emergency Services - <http://www.harfordpublicsafety.org/>

Cecil County Department of Emergency Services - <http://www.ccdes.org/>

Baltimore County Emergency Management- http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/emergency_prep/index.html

Maryland Emergency Management Agency - <http://memama.maryland.gov/prepared/Pages/home.aspx>

Federal Emergency Management Agency - <http://www.fema.gov/>

American Red Cross - <http://www.redcross.org/>

Red Cross Reuniting Families

If you become separated from your family, during an emergency, use your family communications plan or contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS/1-800-733-2767 or visit the American Red Cross Safe and Well site: www.safeandwell.org

The American Red Cross also maintains a database to help you find family. Contact the local American Red Cross chapter where you are staying for information. Do not contact the chapter in the disaster area.

Free Preparedness Apps:

Helpful apps to guide you before, during and after a storm or other emergency include:

Hurricanes by American Red Cross app: A hurricane tracker app available for iPhone and Android. Monitor conditions in your area or throughout the storm track, prepare your family and home, find help and let others know you are safe even if the power is out – a must have for anyone who lives in an area where a hurricane may strike or has loved ones who do.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) app: contains preparedness information

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ACC increases capability, activates new battalion



(From left) Lt. Col. Derek Draper, 926th Contingency Contracting Battalion commander, receives the unit colors from Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols, commander of the U.S. Army Contracting Command

By **BETSY KOZAK-HOWARD**
ACC- APG

The U.S. Army Contracting Command added more capability to its contracting arsenal with the activation of the 926th Contingency Contracting Battalion at Aberdeen Proving Ground Aug. 27.

Approximately 200 guests attended the ceremony at Mallette Hall auditorium to witness the uncasing of the organizational colors by Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols, ACC commanding general. During the ceremony, Lt. Col. Derek Draper received the colors from Nichols, as he assumed command of the new unit.

“The command team of the 926th CCBn is eager and well prepared to start and fulfill its new mission,” said Nichols. “Their mission will be twofold. First, they will train a global-ready expeditionary

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ATEC welcomes new senior NCO

Story and photo by **ROBIN BOGGS**
ATEC

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command welcomed a new command sergeant major in Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Orosz during an assumption of responsibility ceremony at ATEC headquarters Aug. 15.

During the ceremony, ATEC Commanding General Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley passed the ATEC unit flag to signify his trust and confidence in Orosz in executing the duties as ATEC’s senior enlisted leader. Orosz took over senior enlisted advisor duties from Command Sgt. Maj. Allen J. Fritzsching, who departed ATEC in June to become the senior enlisted leader for the Department of the Army Office of the Inspector General.

Utley welcomed Orosz and his Family and provided the audience of nearly 100 Soldiers, civilians and contractors with insight into their new senior enlisted leader’s qualities.

“[Command Sgt. Maj. Orosz] has a reputation for unequalled common sense and a sincere understanding and abiding regard for Soldiers and their Families,” said Utley. “I know ATEC is going to love having him as its senior enlisted advisor.”

Prior to arriving at APG, Orosz served as the command sergeant major for First Army Division West in Fort Hood, Texas, which has a critical mission of conducting training readiness oversight and mobilization of reserve component

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Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Orosz, new command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, is welcomed by Jody Jackson, ATEC Equal Opportunity coordinator, following an assumption of responsibility ceremony at ATEC headquarters, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., Aug. 15, 2013.



APG Installation Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens leads Act, Care, Escort Suicide Intervention training at the APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel Aug. 21.

ASAP, chapel provide intervention training

Story and photos by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Members of the APG community learned about suicide prevention during the Ask, Care, Escort-Suicide Intervention (ACE-SI) training held at the Main Post Chapel Aug. 21.

Installation Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens and Garrison Chapel Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, Sgt.1st Class Elijah Mack led the training, which featured group discussions and role playing exercises. Suicide Prevention Program Manager Kenneth Gesch, from the Army Substance Abuse Program, facilitated the training.

Gesch said the purpose of ACE-SI training is to “train- the- train-

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WEATHER

Thurs.



81° | 55°

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STREET TALK

Where is your favorite place to take a day trip?

“Twice a year I go to Lancaster, Pa. I like going there because it is peaceful; life moves at a slower pace, and it has the largest Christian live theater in the U.S. It makes me feel closer to God to see stories from the Bible come to life.



Shirley Simmons
IRS

“I like to go to Baltimore because of the endless possibilities. You can catch a Ravens or Orioles game, go to a nice dinner and enjoy the nightlife. I like that I live close enough to Baltimore that I can visit whenever I want.



Jake Ferry
MWR Outdoor Recreation

“On the weekends I go to Susquehanna State Park and bike for 20 miles. I like the peace and quiet. It’s a chance to get away from society. I describe myself as a weekend warrior.



Shawn Funk
ECBC

“My Family likes to go to Kilgore Falls in northern Harford County. It’s free to visit, you can go swimming, and the location is very kid-friendly. They have rocks there that look like gold; my kids like to pretend they’re searching for gold. When we visited it wasn’t crowded, it felt like a hidden secret. Plus, I think it’s cool that the Disney movie Tuck Everlasting was filmed there.



April Cobb
Military Spouse

First West Nile virus cases of the year reported in Maryland

COURTESY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
Harford County Health Department

On Aug. 23 the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (MD DHMH) reported it confirmed the first three cases of symptomatic West Nile virus (WNV) infection in 2013.

The Harford County Health Department recommends taking measures to prevent infection and reduce risk

West Nile virus (WNV) is most commonly transmitted to humans by mosquitoes. You can reduce your risk of being infected with WNV by using insect repellent and wearing protective clothing to prevent mosquito bites. There are no medications to treat or vaccines to prevent WNV infection. Fortunately, most people infected with WNV will have no symptoms. About one in five people who are infected will develop a fever with other symptoms that may last a few days or as long as several weeks.

Less than one percent of infected people develop a serious, sometimes fatal, neurologic illness with symptoms such as high fever, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and effects on the nervous system may be permanent.

Although most people are at low risk for disease, people 50 years of age and older have the highest risk of developing severe illness if infected. Also, people who spend a lot of time outdoors have a greater risk of being bitten by an infected mosquito.

“Prevention is key and there are actions individuals can take to reduce the risk of West Nile virus infection,” said Harford County Health Officer Susan Kelly. “In addition to personal protection, prevention requires attention to your surroundings.”

Kelly encourages the public to “help reduce the number of mosquitoes in outdoor areas where they work or play by

Healthy Living

www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/local/ click on Well Being

Healthy Living is a recurring feature in the APG News. It addresses health topics that matter most to our readers. To view more health topics and the Community Health Promotion Council calendar of events, visit the APG homepage <http://www.apg.army.mil/> and click on the Community Health icon at the bottom right, or scan the QR code (at right) with your smart phone or enabled device. To suggest health-related topics for the Health Living series, email patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil or call 410-278-7274.



draining any sources of standing water, even small ones, where mosquitoes can lay their eggs and breed.” Specifically, she recommends:

- At least once or twice a week, empty water from flower pots, pet food and water dishes, birdbaths, swimming pool covers, buckets, barrels, cans, or from any other place where you find standing water.
- Check for clogged rain gutters and clean them out if necessary.
- Look for containers or trash in places that may be hard to see, such as under bushes or under your home.
- Fix dripping faucets.
- Aerate ornamental pools and water gardens or stock with fish and use a circulating filter system
- Install or repair window and door screens so that mosquitoes cannot get indoors.

“Just as importantly,” continues Kelly, “there are measures people can take to effectively protect themselves from mosquito bites. These include avoiding areas of high mosquito activity as well as avoiding unnecessary outdoor activities at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active. Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and hats when concerned about mosquito exposure and use an

EPA-registered insect repellent according to package directions. Also be sure to place mosquito netting over infant carriers when you are outdoors with infants.”

In Maryland, West Nile Virus first appeared in 1999 in a crow in Baltimore City. The first human West Nile cases were reported in 2001 and since that time WNV activity has been found in humans, birds, mosquitoes, horses and/or other mammals throughout all jurisdictions, reaching a peak of 73 human cases and over 230 infected horses in 2003. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene collaborates with the Maryland Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources and with the Department of Defense to monitor WNV and other arboviruses in humans, mosquitoes, and wildlife throughout the state.

For more information on the West Nile Virus virus, visit the Harford County Health Department website at www.harfordcountyhealth.com, contact the Health Department at 410-612-1781, visit the Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene website at <http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/west-nile.aspx>, or the National Centers for Disease Control website at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>.

Leave Donations Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency).

For info, contact Cathy Davis at 410-306-0152 or cathy.a.davis4.civ@mail.mil.

Lamar-Reevey, Kellie
Clelland, Patricia
Pintilie, Jamie
Solomon, Je’Neane
Carter, Joyce
Cwiernie, Victoria
Lewis, Rachel
Smith, Amanda
Evans, Doretha
Sorrells, Paul
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Dull, Francis
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Blethens, Matthew
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Blethen, Lena
Crawford, Curtis
Paris, Scott
Conigliaro, Kenneth
Garabo, Ryan
Mayes, Katherine
Sumic, Angie

How are we doing? Submit letters to the editor to usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

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Local teen gains video editing skills

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

A local high school sophomore gained real-world experience this summer at the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security’s Multimedia/Visual Information Services Center.

Kamau Olushola was one of 51 teens that participated in the Family and MWR’s HIRED! Program summer term.

During the summer, apprentices, ages 15 to 18, work eight-hour shifts, two days a week, assisting with basic, age-appropriate duties.

During Olushola’s apprenticeship, he learned about video editing and production. He gained experience by filming the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command’s change of command ceremony and editing an installation retirement ceremony.

“He was responsible for creating a story board, shooting footage to match the story board, then editing the final project,” said Sean Kief, Olushola’s mentor. “He was very professional, very eager to learn. We were short-staffed this summer; Kamau was able to help us.”

Olushola said that during the apprenticeship, he learned more about using video editing software like Adobe Premier Pro, and Photoshop. Olushola said before his apprenticeship he taught himself some film and photo editing techniques, because that subject is not taught at his school.

“It was a very productive summer,” he said. “I have a better understanding about video editing.”

Olushola thanked M/VISC civilians Kief, Mike Brown and Allyn Camp for mentoring him during his apprenticeship. His career goal is to be a film score composer.

Olushola’s mother Tamicka Mason, a



Photo by Sean Kief

HIRED! Apprentice Kamau Olushola films the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command change of command ceremony July 16. Olushola worked as an apprentice this summer at the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security’s Multimedia/Visual Information Services Center.

Communications-Electronics Command Logistics and Readiness Center civilian, said that the apprenticeship helped her son develop confidence.

“He has always had a passion for this, he would make movies at home directing his little brother and sister, working (at M/VISC) was a dream come true, Mason said. “The apprenticeship gave him a realistic picture of what it is like to work. He learned about being accountable for projects and that some projects take extra time.”

APG’s HIRED! Coordinator Jay McKinney said that Olushola was a

great fit for the apprenticeship. He said his goal is to match apprentices with organizations that reflect their career interests.

“I was very impressed with him during the interview. He had an interest and background knowledge of film and photo-editing software,” McKinney said. “One advantage of the HIRED! program is that teens get exposed to different careers before they go to college or a trade school.”

About HIRED!

The HIRED! program offers a variety of job placements for teens of mil-

itary and government civilians assigned to APG. To secure apprenticeships, candidates must achieve and maintain a 2.0 grade point average or higher before completing a pre-assessment and interviews with facility managers. Depending on the skills and interest teens show in these interviews, they are placed under the direct supervision of a designated onsite mentor who is responsible for tutoring his or her individual apprentices.

Career options in HIRED! include: education, child and/or youth development, marketing or graphic design, library and information science, food and beverage management, pet care education, information technology, sports studies and sports management. Students may participate in the program twice a year between the ages of 15 and 18.

Additional requirements for students include participating in career-prep enrichment activities like workshops on how to complete financial aid forms and scholarship applications. Students will also be expected to keep a journal of their experience.

“Teens will receive experience that will make them competitive in future job opportunities and college applications,” McKinney said. “They will develop work and life skills, like customer service, and resume writing, that will be applicable to any job they might pursue in the future.”

The HIRED! program is accepting teens for the winter term, which starts Dec. 9. During the winter, teens will work three hours a day, five days a week, or on the weekends. To register for the fall term or to find out how to become a mentor, contact McKinney at jay.a.mckinney.naf@mail.mil, or call 410-278-3250.

EEO professionals: Gatekeepers for fairness

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

On Army installations, the responsibility for compliance with Department of the Army regulations governing Equal Opportunity-related practices and programs usually falls on the Garrison Commander who must rely on program managers to oversee requirements.

On Aberdeen Proving Ground, the lead program professional is Garrison (Installation) Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, Rosa Garris-Turner.

The Garrison commander’s principal advisor since July 2012, Garris-Turner also advises senior leaders, directors and civilian employees on EEO program requirements. She directs the management of EEO programs and evaluates the impact organization policies, plans, practices and decisions have on the work force. As the “eyes and ears of the commander,” she ensures EEO is integrated into programs and that employees, managers and supervisors understand their roles and responsibilities.

Garris-Turner said that like every Army installation, the ultimate goal is for the APG EEO program to be the employer of choice with a diverse and effective work force founded on equality of opportunity.

“Most importantly, we want people to know where we are and how to contact us,” she said. “We provide advisory services for employees and management while maintaining neutrality. Our job is to listen and help facilitate the EEO administrative complaint process.”

Garris-Turner and three EEO specialists make up the Installation EEO Office staff. Staff members include Complaints Manager Ashley Reid, Affirmative Employment Program Manager Roxanne Conley and Special Emphasis Program Manager Tiphannie Pharris. The services they provide include the EEO complaint processing, counseling, mediation, EEO-related training, advisory services and special emphasis programs management.

Each staff member is assigned as EEO



Installation and Garrison EEO Advisor Rosa Garris-Turner (center) leads the staff of three EEO program managers, (from left) Roxanne Conley, Ashley Reid and Tiphannie Pharris.

point of contact for specific APG organizations. Organizations not listed below should check with the EEO Office for more information.

Reid: DES, DPTMS, PAO, Chapel, CECOM, MEDCOM, Acquisition Support, Tank Automotive, Field Operations offices, Aviation and Missiles and others.

Conley: FMWR, IRAC, PAIO, Safety, DOL (AMC), RDECOM, CMA, Material Acquisition, Field Operating Agency, CID, Sustainment Command, CHRA and others.

Pharris: DPW, GC, RM, Legal, DHR, ATEC, Contracting, FORSCOM, NETCOM and others.

Garris-Turner said the office serves government civilians and certain contractors as well as applicants for employment and the most common complaints

addressed concern discriminatory complaints regarding race or gender. Individuals wanting to file a discrimination complaint must do so within 45 days of the incident, she said.

“Our message to the APG workforce is that we are here for you,” she said, “and our goal is that you are treated with dignity and respect.”

Garris-Turner’s EEO career spans 16 years. She began as an assistant in 1997 and was elevated to EEO specialist trainee from 2000 to 2003 at Fort Bragg, N.C. Between 2003 and 2008 she moved from EEO specialist to Special Emphasis Program Manager, also at Fort Bragg. She served as the IMCOM EEO Manager for the Garrison at Camp Humphreys, Korea, 2008 to 2010 and was acting chief, EEO/Civil Rights IMCOM

Southeast Region 2010 to 2011. Prior to coming to APG, from 2011 to 2012, Garris-Turner served as the senior EEO Specialist/Acting EEO Officer for the IMCOM Atlantic Region.

For more information, contact Rosa Garris-Turner, EEO Officer, at 410-278-1140, rosa.l.garristurner2.civ@mail.mil; Ashley Reid, Complaints Manager (Compliance), at 410-278-1137, ashley.l.reid.civ@mail.mil; Affirmative Employment Program Manager (Workforce Analysis) Roxanne Conley, at 410-278-4764, roxanne.r.conley.civ@mail.mil; or Special Emphasis Program Manager (Workforce Analysis) Tiphannie Pharris, at 410-278-1131, tiphanie.n.pharris.civ@mail.mil.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Who may file a complaint

Any employee, former employee, applicant for employment or certain contract employees who believe that he or she has been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, reprisal (prior EEO activity) – or genetic information in an employment matter, may initiate the Equal Employment Opportunity complaint process.

How to file a complaint

Contact an EEO official at the APG Garrison EEO office within 45 calendar days from the date of the alleged discriminatory act or from the date he or she became aware of a discriminatory act.

Alternative dispute resolution process

Mediation is the Army’s preferred method of ADR. Mediation provides opportunities to address employment concerns with the assistance of a trained neutral third party. Mediation is an effective means to resolving workplace disputes and improves working relationships. Employees and supervisors are highly encouraged to use mediation as an alternate method for resolving employment disputes.



Want to make a difference in how services are rendered at APG? Tell us how we are doing. Visit <http://ice.disa.mil>. Click on “ARMY” then “Aberdeen Proving Ground.”

Installation bids farewell to three warriors during retirement ceremony

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Leaders, Soldiers, Family members and friends gathered to farewell three Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers who retired with nearly 70 years of combined service during the Installation Retirement Ceremony at the Ball Conference Center Aug. 29.

Major Gen. Dean Sienko, commander of the U.S. Army Public Health Command presided over the ceremony and presented awards assisted by USAPHC Sgt. Maj. Alicia Singer.

Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens presented the invocation.

The honorees included Lt. Col. Richard J. Probst of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence D. Trowbridge from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and Staff Sgt. Jessie R. Solano of the 1st Area Medical Laboratory.

Sienko said the ceremony provided an opportunity to, “salute three Americans who symbolize the strength of our nation.”

“We celebrate their service and the role each has played in making our Army what it is today,” he said.

“Today these three great Americans move on to the next phase of their lives. On behalf of our Army, I extend our personal and professional thanks for your service.

“Thank you for all you have done for our Army and our nation,” he said.

APG August retirees

Lt. Col. Richard J. Probst

Probst was awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal, the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation, Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement and a U.S. flag and pin. Probst was accompanied by his mother, Kathy Probst.

While assigned to APG, Probst served as the chief of the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Branch and as chief, Research Support Division and Attending Veterinarian.

Probst is a native of Wheeler, Ill. He entered the University of Illinois in 1983



Photos by Sean Kief

(From left) Lt. Col. Richard J. Probst, Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence D. Trowbridge, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, and Staff Sgt. Jessie R. Solano, 1st Area Medical Laboratory retire with nearly 70 years combined service during the Installation Retirement Ceremony at the Ball Conference Center Aug. 29.

and enlisted in the Illinois National Guard as an infantryman in 1986. He earned a commission to 2nd lieutenant in 1989 and completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course in 1990. He transitioned from the ARNG to active duty and the rank of captain in January 1992.

His past assignments include Camp Pendleton, Calif.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; the 1995 United Nations mission in Haiti; the Sinai; Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii; Fort Rucker, Ala.; Operation Enduring Freedom; Operation Iraqi Freedom; and in the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General in Falls Church, Va.

Probst holds a doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Illinois, a master’s degree in Public Health from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences; and is board certified in Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

He said he looks forward to a second career as a research veterinarian in biomedical research and he expressed thanks to Sienko, as well as the MRICD leadership, coworkers and friends.

“It was a privilege to serve at MRICD,” he said. “This was a beautiful area with a lot of good people.”

Probst retires Aug. 31 with more than 27 years of service.

Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Trowbridge

Trowbridge was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation, a U.S. flag and

pin, and the DA Certificate of Retirement. His wife, April Trowbridge, received the DA Certificate of Appreciation.

Trowbridge culminates his career as the Medical Operations Noncommissioned Officer at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Trowbridge is a native of Independence, Mo. He graduated from Grandview Senior High School and then entered the Army in 1991. After basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., he attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas where he was awarded the MOS 68W, Combat Medical Specialist.

Trowbridge’s previous assignments include Germany, Korea, Fort Drum, N.Y., Fort Polk, La., Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. and Fort Stewart, Ga., as well as his final assignment at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Trowbridge holds a bachelor’s degree in Human Services from Columbia College. His military education includes all levels of the Noncommissioned Officer Education System; the Sapper Leader Course, and Basic Instructor and Senior Clinical NCO courses.

His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, four Army Commendation medals, eight Army Achievement medals the Iraq Campaign and Global War on Terrorism medals as well as Combat and Expert Field Medical badges.

Trowbridge plans to move to Florida

where he will pursue a career in education. He retires Dec. 31 with 22 years of service.

Staff Sgt. Jessie R. Solano

Solano was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation, a U.S. flag and pin and the DA Certificate of Retirement. His wife, Darilyn, received the DA Certificate of Appreciation.

A native of Wauchula, Fla., Solano graduated from Hardee County High School in 1983. He then moved to Gainesville, where he attended Santa Fe Community College. Solano joined the Army in 1993.

His past assignments include Fort Knox, Ky.; Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; Fort Carson, Colo.; Germany; Bosnia-Herzegovina; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Naval Air Station, San Diego, Calif.; Brunswick Naval Air Station, Maine; Operation Iraqi Freedom; Honduras and Fort Sill, Okla.

Solano’s past awards include seven Army Commendation medals, five Army Achievement medals, and a Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Solano said he was at a loss for words but did convey his thanks to Master Sgt. Adrianne Harris and fellow Soldiers of the 1st AML for their support.

Solano and his wife Darilyn Jean have three children. He retires with 20 years of honorable service.



Save the date for the 2nd Annual APG Oktoberfest celebration to be held at Shine Field, Friday through Sunday, Oct. 11-13. Plans thus far include amusements and family-oriented activities, fireworks, a Festhalle tent with German music and dancing and other live entertainment, food and beverages, a Volksmarch, a German costume competition, a market place for local vendors, a yard sale and a car show. Nightly salutes to surrounding neighbors include Havre de Grace and Bel Air Oct. 11, Aberdeen and Edgewood Oct. 12 and Cecil County Oct. 13. This event is free and open to the public; additional charges apply for food and beverages. More details will be announced as they become available.

For more information and to register for any of the special events, visit the APG Morale, Welfare and Recreation website at www.apgmwr.com/

[SpecialPages/2013Oktoberfest.html](#)
OKTOBERFEST

According to Wikipedia.org, Oktoberfest is a 16-day festival celebrating beer held annually in Munich, Bavaria, Germany. Running from late September to the first weekend in October, it is one of the most famous events in Germany as well as the world’s largest fair, with more than 6 million people from around the world attending the event every year. To the locals, it is not called Oktoberfest, but “die Wiesn”, after the colloquial name of the fairgrounds themselves. The Oktoberfest is an important part of Bavarian culture, having been held since 1810. Other cities around the world also hold Oktoberfest celebrations, modeled after the original Munich event.

Oktoberfest history
Crown Prince Ludwig, later to become

King Ludwig I, was married to Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen Oct. 12, 1810. The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the happy royal event. The fields were named Theresienwiese (“Theresa’s meadow”) in honor of the Crown Princess, and have kept that name ever since, although the locals have since abbreviated the name simply to “die Wiesn.”

Horse races in the presence of the Royal Family marked the close of the event that was celebrated as a festival for the whole of Bavaria. The decision to repeat the horse races in the subsequent year gave rise to the tradition of the Oktoberfest.

“The festival was eventually prolonged and moved ahead to September to allow for better weather conditions. Today, the last day of the festival is the first Sunday in October. In 2006, the Oktoberfest extend-

ed two extra days because the first Tuesday, October 3, was a national holiday.

In 1994, the schedule was modified in response to German reunification so that if the first Sunday in October falls on Oct. 1 or Oct. 2, then the festival would go on until Oct. 3 (German Unity Day). Thus, the festival is now 17 days when the first Sunday is Oct. 2 and 18 days when it is Oct. 1. In 2010, the Oktoberfest lasted until the first Monday in October, to mark the festival’s 200th anniversary.

One of the main goals of Oktoberfest at APG is to enhance the partnerships that we’ve made in the local community, according to Terri Kaltenbacher, APG community relations officer. “This is a way for us to show our thanks and appreciation to our neighbors beyond the gate for their continued support of the Soldier and have lots of fun in the process,” said Kaltenbacher.

Storm preparation can save lives, property

Continued from Page 1

for different types of disasters, an interactive checklist for emergency kits, a section to plan emergency meeting locations, information on how to stay safe and recover after a disaster, a map with FEMA Disaster Recovery Center locations (one-stop centers where disaster survivors can access key relief services) and Shelters, general ways the public can get involved before and after a disaster, and the FEMA blog.

Hurricanes

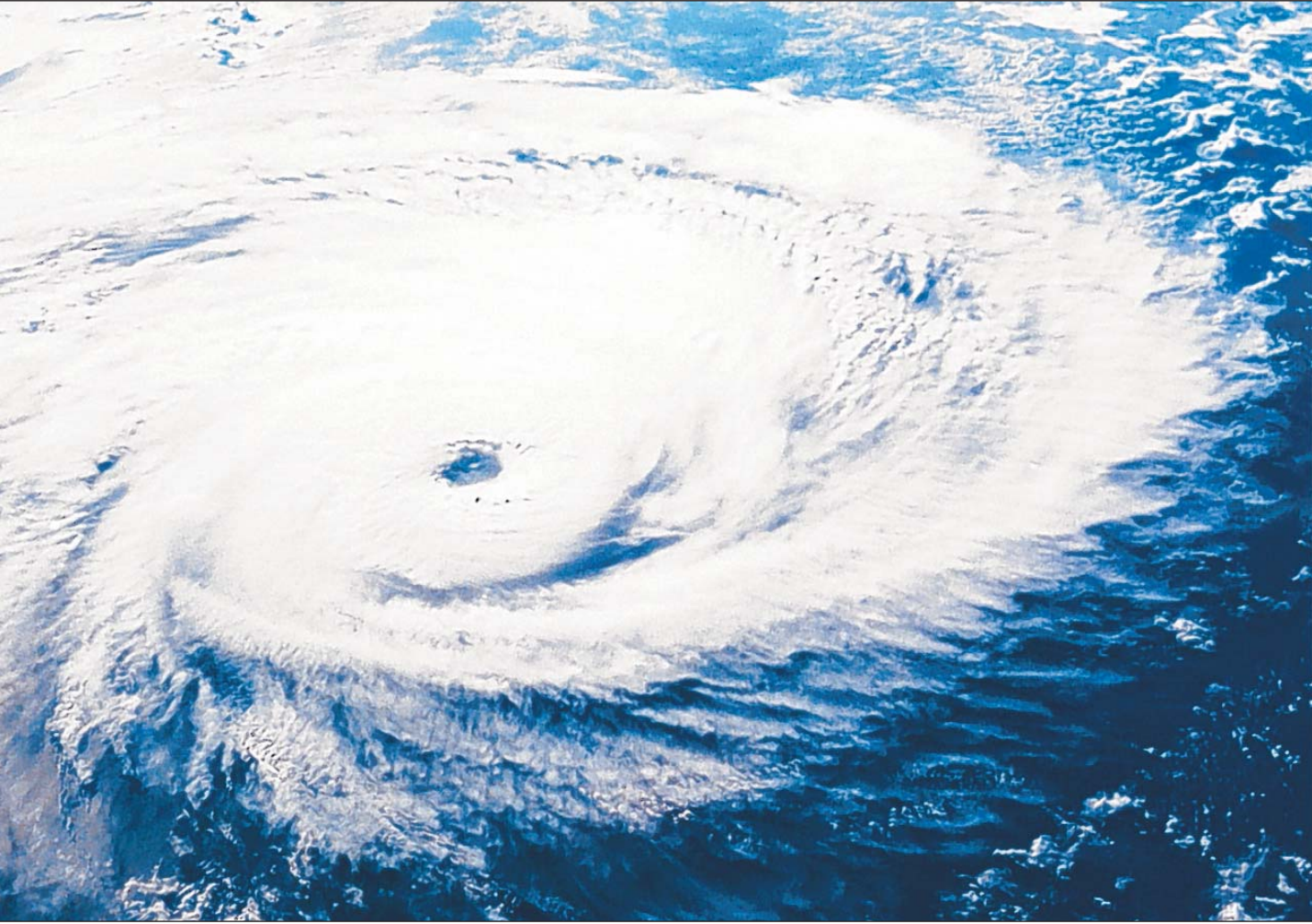
A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone or severe tropical storm that forms in the southern Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and in the eastern Pacific Ocean. Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland. They can produce winds exceeding 155 miles per hour as well as tornadoes and microbursts. Additionally, hurricanes can create storm surges along the coast and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall and floods. Flying debris from the high winds is a deadly hazard of this weather event. Slow moving hurricanes over mountainous regions tend to produce especially heavy rain, triggering landslides or mud slides. Flash flooding can also occur.

Before a Hurricane

- Know your surroundings.
- Learn community hurricane evacuation routes and how to find higher ground. Determine where you would go and how you would get there if you needed to evacuate.
- Make plans to secure your property:
- Cover all of your home’s windows. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8” marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install. Tape offers no protection and does not prevent windows from breaking.
- Install straps or additional clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure. This will reduce roof damage.
- Trim trees and shrubs around your home to make them more wind resistant.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Reinforce garage doors; if wind enters a garage it can cause dangerous and expensive structural damage.
- Bring inside all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down.
- Determine how and where to secure your boat.
- Install a generator for emergencies.
- If in a high-rise building, be prepared to take shelter on or below the tenth floor.
- Consider building a safe room.

During a hurricane

- Listen to the radio or TV for information.
- Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.
- Turn off propane tanks
- Avoid using the phone, except for serious emergencies.
- Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purpose such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other larger containers with water.
- Find out how to keep food safe during and after and emergency.
- You should evacuate if you are directed by local authorities to do so. Be sure to follow their instructions. You should consider moving to safer structures if you live in a mobile home - these structures are particularly hazardous no matter how well fastened to the ground – or in a high-rise building. Hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.
- If you live on the coast, on a floodplain, near a river, or on an island water-



- way you probably should evacuate.
- If you are unable to evacuate, go to your wind-safe room or follow these guidelines:
 - Stay indoors during the hurricane and away from windows and glass doors.
 - Close all interior doors – secure and brace external doors.
 - Keep curtains and blinds closed. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm – winds will pick up again.
 - Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level.
 - Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.
 - Avoid elevators.

After a Hurricane

- If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
- If you cannot return home and have immediate housing needs. Text SHELTER + your ZIP code to 43362 (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: shelter 12345). For those who have longer-term housing needs, FEMA offers several types of assistance, including services and grants to help people repair their homes and find replacement housing. Apply for assistance or search for information about housing rental resources.
- Continue listening to a NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for the latest updates.
- Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding even after the hurricane or tropical storm has ended.
- Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges. Stay off the streets. If you must go out watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.
- Keep away from loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company.
- Walk carefully around the outside your home and check for loose power lines, gas leaks and structural damage before entering.
- Stay out of any building if you smell gas, if floodwaters remain around the building or if it was damaged by fire and the authorities have not declared it safe.
- Inspect your home for damage. Take pictures of damage, both of the building and its contents, for insurance purposes. If you have any doubts about safety, have your residence inspected by a qualified

building inspector or structural engineer before entering.

- Use battery-powered flashlights in the dark. Do not use candles. The flashlight should be turned on outside before entering - batteries may produce a spark that could ignite leaking gas, if present.
- Watch your pets closely and keep them under your direct control. Watch out for wild animals, especially poisonous snakes. Use a stick to poke through debris.
- Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are sure it’s not contaminated.
- Check refrigerated food for spoilage. If in doubt, throw it out.
- Wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up to avoid injury.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- Never use a generator inside homes, garages, crawlspaces, sheds, or similar areas, even when using fans or opening doors and windows for ventilation. Deadly levels of carbon monoxide can quickly build up in these areas and can linger for hours, even after the generator has shut off.

A kit and a plan

Build a kit

A disaster supplies kit is simply a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency. Try to assemble your kit in advance of an emergency. You may have to evacuate at a moment’s notice and take essentials with you. You will probably not have time to search for the supplies you need or shop for them.

You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own food, water and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least 72 hours. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours or it might take days.

Additionally, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment and telephones may be cut off for days or even a week or longer. Your supplies kit should contain items to help you manage during these outages and should be tailored to fulfill your family’s needs.

Basic Emergency Supply Kit

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking

and sanitation

- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Supplemental items:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for pet(s)
- Cash or traveler’s checks and change
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container. Use the Emergency Financial First Aid Kit - EFFAK (PDF - 977Kb) developed by Operation Hope, FEMA and Citizen Corps to help you organize your information.
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book
- Sleeping bag or blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted, nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

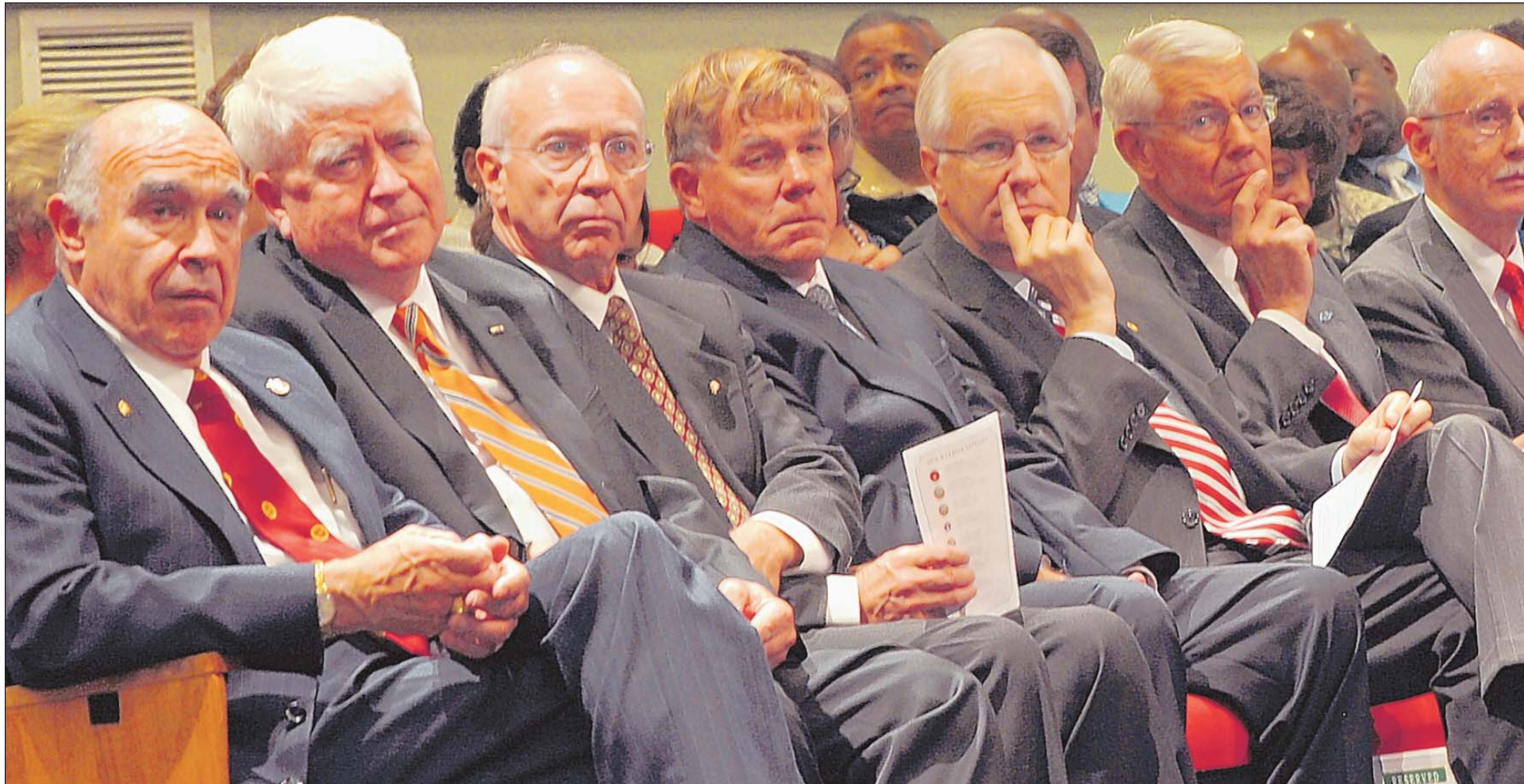


Photo by J.D. Leipold

Eight of the nine Vietnam veterans representing 14 tours in-country and some 225 years in uniform, were recognized for their service during a Pentagon kick-off to the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War, at the Pentagon Aug. 28. Army G-4 Lt. Gen. Raymond V. Mason hosted the event. The nine veterans, all employed by the G-4 are, (from left) George Brewer, Richard Dianich, Bruce Gardner, Roger Houck, Bill King, Lars Larson, Benjamin Morgan, and Robert Thorne. Michael Lambert was unable to attend.

Army begins Commemoration of 50th Anniversary of Vietnam War

By **J.D. LEIPOLD**

The afternoon ceremony in the Pentagon auditorium Aug. 28, provided a time for reflection on a war that spanned 10 years and cost the country the lives of more than 58,000 young men and women. It was also an occasion to honor and thank nine Vietnam War veterans who served 14 tours in-country and a combined total of 225 years in uniform.

Kicking off the Pentagon's first event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the conflict, Lt. Gen. Raymond Mason, Army G-4, opened the ceremony recalling personal memories as well as his broader experiences as a young American citizen.

"I was a young Army brat and it was difficult for me to watch my dad come back after his third tour in Vietnam and not get treated appropriately, at least in my mind," he said. "I was just a pretty young guy at that time, but I could feel that it wasn't right. It struck me, and I knew if I ever had the opportunity

to make that right I would do the best I could.

"Today, we are recognizing nine of our patriots and their families who stood up to the test of their generation and their decade," Mason continued. "I think it's well overdue. Nothing is more important than pausing and reflecting on the sacrifices of what these great men and women did and those who gave their last full measure."

On March 8, 1965, America's ground war in Vietnam began when 3,500 Marines were deployed with the American public's support. By Christmas, nearly 200,000 Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Sailors were in the country. At war's end on April 30, 1975, nearly 3 million Americans had been on the ground, in the air and on rivers of Vietnam. More than 58,000 Americans lost their lives.

While the official 50th anniversary of the War will be in 2015, the president and Congress requested the secretary of Defense to begin planning the Vietnam

War commemoration in 2007.

The goal is to get more than 10,000 corporations, civic groups as well as government and community organizations to join as partners and help sponsor hometown events to honor Vietnam veterans, their families and those who were prisoners of war and missing in action.

To date, 4,921 commemorative partners have signed on, including Army G-4, which became the first.

Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. John Campbell thanked Mason and his team for leading the way for the rest of the nation to celebrate the contributions of Vietnam veterans over the next few years.

The son of an Air Force senior master sergeant, Campbell talked about growing up on military bases around the world before attending West Point, and then recalled his first interaction with Vietnam veterans while a lieutenant in Germany.

"Both the battalion commanders

were Vietnam veterans ... all the platoon sergeants, all the first sergeants, all the company commanders were Vietnam veterans," he said. The vets instilled in him their hard-fought lessons-learned from Vietnam and wanted to make sure the young lieutenants and Soldiers wouldn't make the same mistakes they had, he added.

Former G-4 and now retired Lt. Gen. Claude "Mick" Kicklighter serves as director of the U.S. Vietnam War Commemoration. During the event he previewed the timeline of plans for honoring Vietnam veterans across the country.

The event included the premier of "Veterans of Valor," a 30-minute documentary featuring the nine honorees' personal photos and humorous and somber anecdotes of their war experiences.

For more information about the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War commemorations and events, visit the website: <http://www.vietnam-war50th.com/>.

MOH recipient inducted into Hall of Heroes

By **LISA A. FERDINANDO, ARNEWS**

The most recent Medal of Honor recipient from Operation Enduring Freedom, Staff Sgt. Ty M. Carter, was inducted into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes, Aug. 27, just a day after he was awarded the nation's highest military honor during a White House ceremony.

Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. John F. Campbell said Carter is a reminder to all of America that there are "modern day heroes who live and walk among us."

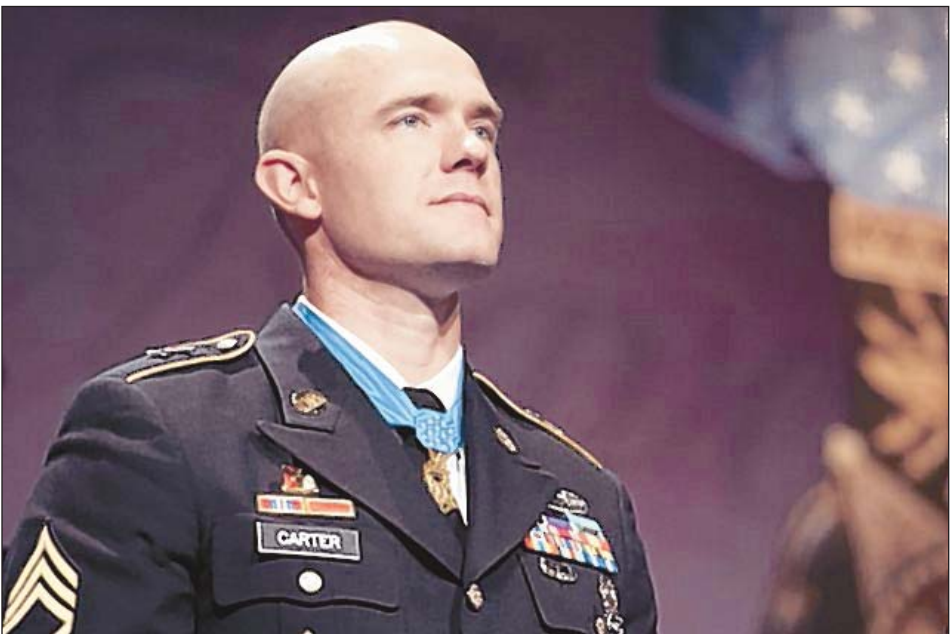
In attendance at the ceremony were some of the Soldiers who fought alongside Carter during the Oct. 3, 2009, battle in Afghanistan, families of Soldiers who died in that battle, and four Medal of Honor recipients. Also in attendance were senior leaders of the U.S. military, including Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter, Under Secretary of the Army Joseph W. Westphal, and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III.

The Pentagon Hall of Heroes is a special room in the Defense Department headquarters where all the service members who have received the Medal of Honor are enshrined.

The hall is "hallowed ground" inside the Pentagon "to memorialize our nation's warriors who have demonstrated conspicuous gallantry above and beyond the call of duty," said Campbell.

By honoring Carter, Campbell said, the nation is also honoring those who fought alongside him that day at the remote Combat Outpost Keating where eight Soldiers died in a battle that raged for more than 12 hours.

"He elevated the needs of his team and nation above his own safety," Campbell said of Carter's actions that day. "His great humility, and love for his fellow Soldiers are the hallmark of a true hero."



Staff Sgt. Ty Michael Carter stands on stage in the Pentagon Auditorium just before being inducted into the Hall of Heroes, Aug. 27, 2013.

Carter was among 53 Soldiers at COP Keating, located deep in a valley surrounded by towering mountains in the Kamdesh District, Nuristan Province of Afghanistan. The base was attacked by an estimated 300 Taliban fighters.

The then-specialist sprinted through a "barrage of fire" to resupply ammunition and fight alongside his "desperately outnumbered comrades," Campbell said.

Carter rescued a wounded Soldier, rendered first aid and carried him to safety. He moved through "withering fire" to check on fellow Soldiers and secure a radio that later proved critical to saving the team, Campbell said.

"He fought fiercely and inspired those around him throughout the battle that brutal day of combat," Campbell said. "Sergeant Carter's gallant actions were those of a man, a Soldier, who was physically and mentally strong and well-prepared for combat."

Carter said the brave men of Bravo "Black Knight" Troop 3d Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, "quickly felt the weight of a Taliban force seven-to-eight times our size."

"None of us should have survived," he said. "Though the Taliban have every tactical advantage, what they could never have is the pure untainted sense of brotherhood that the men and women of America's Army feel for their battle buddies."

There is simply no stronger bond than that of a group of Soldiers facing the impossible, Carter said.

"But [we] were determined not to give up, if only to ensure the safety of others. It's stronger than blood," he said.

Carter remembered his fallen comrades and, choking up as he spoke, said one of the biggest regrets of his life was that he could not do more for Spc.

Stephan Mace, who he brought to safety but who later died.

Carter said more than half of the Soldiers at COP Keating were wounded and "almost everyone was left with deep, invisible wounds to their hearts and minds."

"These are the unlikely heroes of Combat Outpost Keating, brave men, brothers and Soldiers for life," he said.

Carter, who has been public about his struggle with post-traumatic stress, has a sense of purpose that will drive him to help others who have suffered the wounds of war, Westphal said.

"It takes the same courage that you showed on that day of battle to seek ways to heal," Westphal said. "Leadership, loyalty, character are abundant in you. The love and companionship of your family will strengthen and heal you. Your fellow Soldiers will need you and you will need them."

Family members of the fallen team members were recognized at the event. Campbell read the names of each of those who died in the battle: Staff Sgt. Justin Gallegos, Sgt. Christopher Griffin, Sgt. Joshua Hardt, Sgt. Joshua Kirk, Spc. Stephan Mace, Staff Sgt. Vernon Martin, Sgt. Michael Scusa, and Pfc. Kevin Thomson.

Also remembered at the ceremony was Pvt. Edward Faulkner, who died after returning from Afghanistan "during a difficult struggle with post-traumatic stress," Campbell said.

The 33-year-old Carter, whose wife, three children and other family members were in attendance, was honored at the White House the day before.

He is the second Soldier to receive the nation's highest military decoration for actions at COP Keating. Former Staff Sgt. Clinton Romesha was presented the Medal of Honor, for his actions at COP Keating in February.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 8
9/11 MEMORIAL 5K WALK/
RUN

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard (EANGUS) will host the first 9/11 Memorial 5K Walk/Run with all proceeds benefitting the Wounded Warrior Project, starting at 9 a.m. at Warfield Air National Guard Base, 2701 Easter Boulevard, Middle River, MD 21220. Rain date is Sept. 15. Run start time is 10 a.m. with a Kids Fun Run starting 11 a.m. Minimum donation is \$25. To register visit the Wounded Warrior Project website at <https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/individual-fundraising/911Memorial5KEANGUSRegistration/>; contact Master Sgt. Curtis Pollitt at 410-918-6163, curtis.pollitt@ang.af.mil; or Staff Sgt. Kyle Schwartz at 410-918-6209, kyle.schwartz@ang.af.mil.

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 10
LIFE INSURANCE FAIR

The CECOM Wellness Program will host The 2013 Life Insurance Awareness Month (LIAM) fair at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000 from noon to 1 p.m.. This year's national spokesperson for Life Insurance Awareness Month will be Norman Julius "Boomer" Esiason, retired NFL MVP and current television analyst. Several representatives will provide information on buying life insurance to protect the ones you love. This event is open to everyone on APG.

CARE FIRST BLUE CROSS
BLUE SHIELD VISIT

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield to visit APG 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. The representative will not be available in Edgewood this visit. No appointment necessary.

For questions, contact Teri Wright, 410-278-4331 or e-mail teresa.l.wright28.civ@mail.mil.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 14
WOMEN'S HOME BUILD

Due to rain delays, the Team APG Women's Home Build project has been rescheduled to 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 14. For more information, contact Linda Patrick, PHC, at 410-436-1023, linda.d.patrick.civ@mail.mil; Sheryl Coleman, ARL, at 410-278-5964, sheryl.l.coleman.civ@mail.mil; or Tracy Marshall, CECOM, at 443-861-4366, tracy.y.marshall.mil@mail.mil.

FAMILY DAY AT THE POST
CHAPEL

Unlock 4,000 years of Godly wisdom in five memorable hours. Fun and interactive family learning is planned from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch and refreshments will be provided; childcare is available. Registration forms are available at the Main Post Chapel, building 2485. To register, or for more information, call the chapel at 410-278-4333/2516.

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 16
INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE
PROFESSIONALS (IAAP)

Administrative Professionals! How would you like to be on the cutting edge of your craft and enhance your promotion potential? The IAAP is looking for you! Our group represents various businesses and facilities within Harford County such as Battelle, Booz Allen Hamilton, SAIC, US Army, Harford Community College, Upper Chesapeake Hospital, Boeing, and more. Our meetings focus on enhancing your administrative education, training, leadership development, research, community outreach. We offer professional certifications which are recognized industry standards. The Harford Chapter meets every third Monday from 6 to 7:30 pm Harford Community College, Chesapeake Dining Room North. Please check us out at <http://www.harford-iaap.org> or on Facebook at IAAP-Harford Chapter. For questions, please contact the Harford County Chapter at IAAP.HC@gmail.com.

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 17
BALANCE AND MY ACHING
FEET

The CECOM Wellness Program will host a Balance and My Aching Feet Informational Session at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000 from noon to 1 p.m.. The guest speaker, physical therapist Chris Brinton, will discuss practical ways to manage foot/heel pain, anatomy of the foot, foot mechanics and treatment options.

AMERICAN SIGN
LANGUAGE CLASS

The Fall 2013 American Sign Language class begins today and continues each Tuesday through Dec. 10. The class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bldg. E3330-31, room 270 in APG South (Edgewood). The ASL class is free and open to anyone with a CAC or military ID card including spouses. The text book "ABC, A Basic Course in American Sign Language," can be purchased online [amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com] or at local book stores. To register, or for more information, contact BethAnn Cameron at 410-436-7175, bethann.cameron.civ@mail.mil; Pat Reeves at 410-436-2917, patricia.j.reeves6.civ@mail.mil; or Randy Weber at 410-436-8546, randy.k.weber.civ@mail.mil.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 17 & 18
BJ'S MEMBERSHIP SIGNUP

Save \$10 off the \$50 in-store membership fee for Inner Circle and \$20 off the \$100 in-store membership for the Rewards Program. Memberships are for 15 months instead of 12. All forms of payment accepted. Discounted memberships are only available at on-site signups – not in store or on line. Sign up at the APG South (Edgewood) Recreation Center, Bldg. E4140, on Tuesday, Sept. 17, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or at the APG North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center on Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 18
RESILIENCY HEALTH FAIR

The APG Community Health Promotion Council and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will host the second annual Resiliency Health Fair 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center. The health fair will offer a variety of free screenings, health information, and giveaways and is a great way to consult with health professionals, assess your health status and take control of an overall health plan on the road to fitness.

For more information on the resiliency health fair, contact Sue Singh, KUSAHC Community Health Nurse, at 410-278-1771.

COLLEGE FAIR

APG will host a College Fair 3 to 6:30 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326. This event is open to active duty and retired service members, Family members and civilian employees. For more information, call 410-306-2042.

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 19
NATIONAL HISPANIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH

Team APG will host the installation National Hispanic American Heritage Month observance 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000 on the C4ISR campus. Featured events include a cultural food tasting, educational performances and exhibits. The guest speaker is Lawrence G. Romo, director of the Selective Service System, Washington, D.C. The theme for the 2013 observance is "Hispanics: Serving and leading our nation with pride and honor."

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Ryan Cole, 20th Support Command (CBRNE), 410-436-0320; Sgt. 1st Class Howard Norcross, Army Test and Evaluation Command, 443-861-9251; Linda Patrick, Public Health Command, 410-436-1023; Carmen Adrover, Chemical Materials Agency, 410-436-4186; Rose Satz, PEO C3T, 443-395-2940; or Tracy Marshall, CECOM/Installation EEO, 443-861-4366.

For disability related accommodations, call 410-436-0320.

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 25
TAKING CONTROL OF
FUTURE EVENTS THROUGH
LONG-TERM CARE
PLANNING

Have the stock market and housing values eroded your retirement savings? For many people, it has. Now, just imagine what impact extended (or long-term) care for you or a loved one would have on your retirement savings and if anything would be left for your loved ones. In many cases, it can be devastating. Are you financially ready or emotionally prepared to meet the costs needed? GEBA can help. To help prevent the severe financial hardship that paying for long term care can bring, Long Term Care insurance should be an important part of your overall financial plan.

The CECOM Wellness Program will host a Long-Term Care Planning informational session where, GEBA representatives, will discuss the general information on preparing future Long-Term Care planning at the C4ISR campus, Bldg. 6008 (Mallette Mission Training Facility) in Room 4 from noon to 1 p.m.

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 26
RAB MEETING

The next RAB meeting will be held on Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center in Edgewood. The topic of discussion will be an update on Military Munitions Response Program. For more information, contact Karen Jobes at karen.w.jobes.civ@mail.mil.

SO YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT
TALENT

Enjoy a night of great talent and fun as MWR and BOSS host the "So You Think You've Got Talent" variety show at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street. Doors open 5 p.m., show starts 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

Participation is open to active duty military, civilians, contractors, retirees and Family members age 16 and

older. Auditions are set for 6 to 8 p.m., the following dates: Aug. 27 & 28 at APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, Bldg. E4140; Sept. 10 & 11 at APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street.

Categories are: Vocalist, Group Vocalist, Instrumentalist, Band (maximum five members), Dancers, Dancer, Spoken Word, Comedy and other novelties.

Awards: Active duty and civilian categories will be awarded:

- 1st Place - \$300
- 2nd Place - \$200
- 3rd Place - \$100.

People's Choice Award – 8.9-inch Kindle Fire

Most Talented Unit streamer

To register, contact the Leisure Travel office in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Bldg. 3326, Erie Street, at 410-278-4011/4907, or visit the APG Morale, Welfare and Recreation website at www.apgmwr.com.

NDIA/WID LEADER
LUNCHEON

The Joint NDIA/WID Leader Luncheon will be held at the Ruggles Golf Course clubhouse to discuss leading the future of Army communications systems. RSVP at <http://www.wid-midatlantic.org/Events.html>. Cost is \$20. Guest speaker is Mary Woods of DPEO C3T.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 28
9TH ANNUAL "SUPPORT
OUR HEROES" GALA

Tickets are now available for the 9th Annual Support Our Heroes Gala to be held 6 to 10 p.m. at Waters Edge Events Center, 4687 Millennium Drive, in Belcamp. Featured will be live and silent auctions; music and dancing, heavy hors d'oeuvres and carving station, cash bar. Proceeds benefit the Fisher House Foundation, supporting wounded warriors and their families.

Tickets on sale now. Sponsorship opportunities available. For more information, visit www.chesapeake-heroes.com

FRIDAY – SUNDAY
OCTOBER 11 - 13
OKTOBERFEST

Save the dates for the 2nd annual APG Oktoberfest celebration to be held at Shine Field Friday afternoon through Sunday. For more details, go to <http://apgmwr.com/SpecialPages/2013Oktoberfest.html>

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 19
MILITARY RETIREE
APPRECIATION DAY

Save Oct. 19 for the APG Annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) to be held at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. Registration begins 8 a.m. with the program opening ceremony at 9 a.m. The guest speaker is Maryland State Senator Nancy Jacobs. More details will be released as they become available. For more information, contact Thomas Shumate at 410-306-2303 or thomas.s.shumate2.civ@mail.mil

ONGOING
OPENINGS AT YOUTH
CENTERS

The Aberdeen and Edgewood programs currently have immediate openings for the 2013-2014 school year at their School Age & Youth Services facilities. Openings are available in both locations for eligible users. For more information, call 410-278-7571/7479.

CYSS PARTNERS WITH
HOMESCHOOLERS

The Child, Youth and School Services at APG is trying to establish a partnership with authorized users who home-school their children in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas. CYSS is willing to open their facilities during the week so homeschooled children can have access to classrooms, the computer lab and gym on a scheduled basis. For more information, call 410- 278-7571/7479.



Rodney D. Shelby

Garrison operations specialist/Installation Ammunition Manager

A government civilian and member of the Garrison's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, Rodney D. Shelby wears two hats in supporting Garrison operations.

As the Installation Ammunition Manager, he serves as the reviewer for all forecasted and un-forecasted ammunition that is drawn at the APG Ammunition Supply Point. Within the DPTMS Plans & Operations division, he coordinates and plans installation ceremonies and events. This includes providing the state, branch, and officer flags and flag stands for official events and providing guidance on protocol for official ceremonies.

Shelby said he thinks Team APG does an excellent job coming up with

ideas and programs to enhance Spirit de Corps among the workforce and that it continues to find more ways to get the word out and enhance overall participation.

"I enjoy the continued interaction with Soldiers and providing a meaningful service to the APG community," he said.

The DPTMS is located in Bldg. 320. Plans & Operations personnel work behind the scenes to ensure ceremonies for visiting dignitaries and monthly events like the Installation Retirement Ceremony go off without a hitch.

Office hours are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, contact Shelby at 410-278-3660, rodney.d.shelby.civ@mail.mil.

DOD facilities begin issuing ID cards immediately to same-sex spouses

By **JIM GARAMONE**
American Forces Press Service

Department of Defense facilities are gearing up to issue identification cards to same-sex spouses beginning Sept. 3, Pentagon officials said.

“All spousal and family benefits, including ID cards, will be made available no later than September 3,” said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Nate Christensen.

The Supreme Court decision to overturn portions of the Defense of Marriage Act made it possible for the department to recognize same-sex marriages.

“The department will make the same benefits available to all military spouses, regardless of sexual orientation, as long as service member-sponsors provide a valid marriage certificate from a jurisdiction -- including those overseas -- that recognizes same-sex marriage,” Christensen said.

Entitlements such as basic allowance for housing and family separation allowance are retroactive to the date of the Supreme Court’s decision -- June 26, 2013. For service members married after that date, the entitlements will be

paid from the date of the marriage.

TRICARE, the military health care program, is tied to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. TRICARE will be available to same-sex spouses beginning Sept. 3.

There are 15 countries that recognize same-sex marriage. In the United States, 13 states and the District of Columbia recognize same-sex marriages.

Many U.S. service members live in jurisdictions that do not recognize same-sex marriages. As operation-

al requirements permit, commanders may allow military personnel in same-sex relationships up to 10 days of non-chargeable leave for the purpose of travelling to a jurisdiction that allows same-sex couples to be married if they are stationed more than 100 miles from one of those areas.

“Personnel stationed within the continental United States may receive up to seven days non-chargeable leave and those stationed at overseas assignments may receive up to 10 days non-chargeable leave,” Christensen said.

Suicide intervention teaches prevention

Continued from Page 1

ers” so they can go back to their organizations or units and teach the course in small groups.

“The Army looked at how we conduct suicide prevention training and found that small groups are more effective,” Gesch said. “People are usually more willing to participate in discussions in small groups.”

Gesch said that the ACE-SI training teaches participants skills so they can help individuals who demonstrate suicide warning signs. The training also teaches participants to encourage these individuals to seek professional help.

“I think the stigma for seeking help in the military has improved quite a bit,” Gesch said. “The Sergeant Major of the Army (Raymond Chandler) has discussed his experiences seeking behavioral health specialists for counseling. He has made suicide prevention one of his top priorities.”

One course participant, Ben Polanco from CECOM, said stress from deployments, demanding workloads and budgetary cutbacks have strained Soldiers, the civilian workforce and their Families.

“I think that the Army takes this issue very seriously,” he said. “We spend so much time at work, co-workers become like our Family members. We need to be able to reach out to them, if they need help.

The following suicide prevention awareness training will be offered during September:

Large group training at APG post theater (Bldg. 3245)
Sept. 13: 9 to 10:15 a.m., 10:30 to 11:45 a.m., 1 to 2:15 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.
Sept. 16: 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Large group training at APG South (Edgewood) chapel (Bldg. E4620)
Sept. 19: 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Screenings of the movie Ordinary People, will be provided in lieu of face-to-face training:

Sept. 19: 1 to 3:30 p.m. APG South (Edgewood) Chapel
Sept. 16: noon to 2:30 p.m. APG post theater

I served in combat several times and know how stressful it can be, I had to overcome many things. I want to be able to help my fellow Soldiers and fellow employees. I had several great mentors (in my career) now it is time for me to give back that which was given to me. I want to help build a stronger workforce.”

During the training Owens discussed

protective factors, or skills, strengths and resources that help people deal more effectively with stressful events. These protective factors reduce the likelihood of attempting or completing a suicide. Owens said resilient people are able to “bounce back” from stressful events. He said one of the keys to becoming more resilient is to make connections and com-

mitments to others. Owens encouraged ACE-SI participants to show those seeking help that their lives matter.

“Resilient people have a sense of purpose in their lives,” Owens said. “They are connected to others.”

Gesch said that so far, more than 50 people from the APG community have taken ACE-SI training.

Another training session will be offered 8 a.m. to noon, Sept. 10, at the Main Post Chapel. Team APG will provide a variety of suicide awareness trainings for the community throughout September which is National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month as well as National Recovery Month.

“We need to keep the issue [of suicide prevention] in people’s minds; people do not always pick up on the warning signs,” Gesch said.

Learn tips on how to combat stress 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., during the Resiliency Health Fair at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Sept. 18.

For more information about suicide prevention awareness training contact Gesch at 410-278-7779, or e-mail kenneth.a.gesch.civ@mail.mil. For a list of local suicide prevention resources, contact Gesch or the Employee Assistance Program manager 410-278-5319.

Orosz takes reigns as ATEC’s new CSM

Continued from Page 1

forces in the western United States.

This is not the first time he has served in a senior enlisted role at APG, however. From 2009 through 2011, Orosz served as the command sergeant major for the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) headquartered on APG South (Edgewood). Throughout his 28-year career, Orosz has served in every duty position from machine gun ammunition bearer to squad leader to operations noncommissioned officer to command sergeant major. Orosz has deployed five times in support of opera-

tions in Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan.

A leader of few words, Orosz thanked the ATEC workforce for their efforts in ensuring ATEC remains the Department of Defense’s premier organization for full spectrum testing.

“[ATEC] is a vital part of our military and, no doubt in my mind, the hard work and dedication of our professional workforce here at Aberdeen and at other test facilities across the command saves lives,” he said. “I look forward to serving with all the professional Soldiers and civilians in this command.”



Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Orosz accepts the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command unit flag from ATEC Commanding General Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley during an assumption of responsibility ceremony at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Headquarters Aug. 15.

New contracting battalion established at APG

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contracting force capable of deploying in support of the joint war fighter in all areas of responsibility. Second, they will provide comprehensive contracting and business advisory support to the customers of the Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground.”

The 926th activation was the final phase of the ACC integration of military members into contracting centers. With this military integration, ACC-APG assumed management of approximately 40 military personnel in the 51C (acquisition, logistics and technology contracting) career field, according to Bryon J. Young, ACC-APG executive director.

“This is a historic day and tremendous organizational opportunity for ACC-APG,” said Young. “We have been entrusted with the mission to assist and train military contracting officers and specialists. Contracting professionals, both military and civilian, serve as agents of the United States of America, entrusted with integrity, to ensure the best possible support for our customers, our war fighters and the taxpayer.”

As commander of the 926th CCBn, Draper will be responsible for four contingency contracting teams (712th CCT, 722nd CCT, 725th CCT and the 865th CCT). The teams are comprised of two officers and three noncommissioned officers.

Draper admits he’s humbled to be given the opportunity to lead this group

of military members.

“I’m truly honored to be the first commanding officer of the 926th CCBn,” Draper said. “I’m also excited for the unique opportunities available to our Soldiers at APG. They will be able to expand their contracting skills and work on complex contract actions in support of ACC-APG’s diverse customer base.”

Just as the mission of the 926th CCBn is two-fold, Draper will also have dual responsibilities.

In addition to serving as the battalion commander, he will serve as chief of ACC-APG’s Garrison Division. In this role, Draper will provide contracting support to the garrison, procuring supplies and services for the Soldiers and civilians of APG.

Military members of the 926th CCBn are attached to ACC-APG for daily management and professional development but are assigned to the Expeditionary Contracting Command for contingency operations. In the event that they are called to support contingency mission requirements, the members will be detached from ACC-APG for the duration of the deployment.

“The garrison contracting requirements closely resemble the type of contract actions our Soldiers experience while they are deployed,” explained Draper.

“The time they spend supporting garrison requirements will form their contracting foundation that they will build upon as they advance their contracting careers to serve their nation.”



CORRECTION

In the August 29th edition of the APG News, Tyler Long, left, was inadvertently identified as Donnye Culbreth. APG News regrets the error.



MORE ONLINE

To view more photos of events going on at and around the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, visit the garrison Flickr site <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or scan the QR code.

APG SNAPSHOT

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

HARRIS RISES TO TOP ENLISTED RANK

(From left) Col. Patrick Garman, commander of the 1st Area Medical Laboratory, congratulates newly-promoted Sgt. Maj. Adrienne D. Harris, during her promotion ceremony at the Ball Conference Center Sept. 3. Harris maintains her position as the 1st AML senior enlisted advisor



TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT

Romain Frejuste, a Communications-Electronics Command Software Engineering Center employee, aims at a target during an adult archery class, hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation at the APG archery range, located on APG North (Aberdeen) Aug. 28. For more information about using the APG archery range, contact MWR Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124

Photo by Rachel Ponder

ASAP HOSTS ANNUAL COMMANDER AND FIRST SGT TRAINING

APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin speaks to a group of APG leaders during annual Army Substance Abuse Program commander and first sergeant training. ASAP civilian employees introduced themselves to the commanders and first sergeants, highlighting different services. ASAP supports the Army's individual and unit readiness by providing alcohol and other drug abuse deterrence through alcohol and drug testing, prevention, rehabilitation, program evaluation and research.

"ASAP is a critical component of Soldier readiness," Ervin said. "It is all about taking care of Soldiers and Family members on this installation."

Ervin encouraged anyone struggling with substance abuse to seek help. ASAP clinical services are provided to Family members of active duty Soldiers, retirees and their Family members, civilian employees and their Family members over eighteen.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



PWOC Kicks-Off fall meeting schedule



By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Women from the APG community gathered for faith and fellowship during the Protestant Women of the Chapel Kick-Off celebration Aug. 29.

The PWOC 2013 theme is "Walk Forward in Love." All women are invited to join PWOC, which meets Tuesday evenings and Thursday mornings. "If you can get on post, you can join PWOC," said the PWOC President Stacie Dorris. PWOC Outreach Coordinator Serenity Coats said the four aims of the PWOC are to lead, teach, develop, and involve women from all Christian denominations through weekly fellowship, prayer and Bible study. This chapel-based ministry for women was formed to help chaplains carry out their religious programs, and to bring Christian fellowship and spiritual growth to U.S. military communities around the globe.

During the program PWOC leaders introduced Bible studies that the group will be considering this fall. They are: "Made to Crave: Satisfying Your Deepest Desire with God Not Food, by Lysa TerKeurst, "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat" by John Ortberg and Sheila Walsh "Becoming a Woman Who Loves: A Bible Study," by Cynthia Heald and "No Other God: Confronting Our Modern Day Idols," by Kelly Minter. Participants will choose one book to study. The PWOC is also involved in community outreach projects throughout the year. The motto of PWOC is "we are workers together for Christ." Vicky McClinton, wife of APG

Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton, said the PWOC is important because it builds a strong community. "The PWOC provides consistency for military spouses who frequently move," said McClinton, who has been involved with PWOC for many years. "It is a refuge, a place that spouses can go for support." The PWOC meets 7 p.m. Tuesday evenings off post and 9:30 a.m. to noon Thursday at the Main Post-Chapel. Free childcare is provided at the chapel for participants during the Thursday morning sessions. For more information, including the address of the Tuesday sessions, contact the chapel at 410-278-4333.